

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAB-01 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3565

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 399

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, SA

SUBJECT: KING FAISAL VISIT TO JORDAN

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1. SUMMARY: MAJOR FEATURES OF KING FAISAL'S JANUARY 17-19 VISIT WERE:

SAUDI GRANT OF \$57 MILLION TO JORDAN IN ASSISTANCE BEYOND RABAT AND KHARTOUM PAYMENT; JOINT COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTING "PEACE BASED ON JUSTICE"; CONDEMNING ISRAELI SETTLEMENT AND POLICY OF "JUDAIZATION" OF JERUSALEM AS "GRAVE THREAT TO PEACE"; AND REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR PLO AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS. BOTH SAUDIS AND JORDANIANS SEEM PLEASED WITH OUTCOME OF VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR POINTS OF JANUARY 19 JORDANIAN-SAUDI COMMUNIQUE (REPORTED FBIS LONDON 191243Z JAN 74) ARE:

(A) KING FAISAL EMPHASIZED HIS DUTY TO SUPPORT ALL CONFORMATION STATES TO MEET ANY SURPRISE AGGRESSION. ACCORDINGLY, "HE HAS DECIDED TO SUPPORT JORDAN WITH \$47 MILLION TO FACE URGENT NEEDS AND WITH \$10 MILLION MORE FOR BUILDING HOUSES FOR OFFICERS OF THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES."

(B) "THE TWO LEADERS EMPHASIZED THAT PEACE BASED ON JUSTICE IS PRIME OBJECTIVE OF WHOLE ARAB NATION." PEACE CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS, WITH JERUSALEM AT THE FOREMOST, AND BY SECURING "THE NATIONAL LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE."

(C) CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS AND ARBITRARY MEASURES TO CONSOLIDATE OCCUPATION BY JUDAIZING JERUSALEM ON ONE HAND, AND BY SETTING UP SETTLEMENTS ON OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS ON THE OTHER, ARE EVIDENCE OF DETERMINATION TO DISOBEY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND DEFEY WILL OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY UN. "ALL THIS CONSTITUTES A GRAVE THREAT TO PEACE IN THE AREA AND IN THE WHOLE WORLD."

(D) RESOLVED TO CONTINUE IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTIONS OF RABAT SUMMIT, "IN PARTICULAR CONCERNING ENABLING PLO IN ITS CAPACITY AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO CARRY OUT ITS NEW RESPONSIBILITY ON BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS."

(E) EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN OVER CONTINUED ISRAELI AGGRESSION ON LEBANESE TERRITORY.
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3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE \$57 MILLION IN SAUDI ASSISTANCE IS ADDITIONAL TO THEIR ANNUAL KHARTOUM PAYMENT AND TO THE \$51 MILLION RECENT SAUDI PAYMENT TO JORDAN AS PART OF THE RABAT SUBSIDY. HIGH GOJ OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED US THAT JORDAN HAS REQUESTED SAUDI ASSISTANCE FOR \$36 MILLION FOR PROJECT-CONNECTED ITEMS IN THE JORDANIAN BUDGET (INCLUDING ROADS AND OTHER PROJECTS NEAR SAUDI-JORDAN BORDER)

AND WHICH ARE NOW EQUATED TO THE J.D. 11.9 MILLION (\$36 MILLION) 1975 BUDGET DEFICIT. WE UNDERSTAND GOJ ASKED ALSO FOR \$11 MILLION FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE JORDAN VALLEY. WE ASSUME THESE EXPENSES COMPRISE MOST OF THE \$47 MILLION "URGENT NEEDS" CITED IN THE COMMUNIQUE. THE \$10 MILLION GIFT FOR OFFICERS' HOUSING, MATCHES AN IRANIAN LOAN ANNOUNCED DURING THE SHAH'S RECENT VISIT. SINCE THAT REPRESENTS AN AWFUL LOT OF OFFICERS' HOUSING, SOME FUNDS MIGHT FIND THEIR WAY INTO SUCH PET PROJECTS AS A NEW ARMY HQ BUILDING AND A NEW ROYAL DIWAN BUILDING.

4. BEYOND PROVISION WELCOME SAUDI RELIEF FOR PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED \$36 MILLION JORDAN BUDGET DEFICIT FOR CY 1975, MAJOR FEATURES OF VISIT RELATE TO MIDEAST SITUATION. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS STRONG EMPHASIS ON JOINT CONCERN OVER CURRENT ISRAELI SETTLEMENT EFFORTS ON WEST BANK AND ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION PLANS IN JERUSALEM. REGARDING JORDANIAN-PLO RELATIONS, COMMUNIQUE APPEARS TO BE FULL REAFFIRMATION OF PLO PRIMACY ON PALESTINIAN-WEST BANK ISSUE AND PROBABLY WAS PRESSED ON JORDAN BY SAUDIS.

5. ATMOSPHERICS: IN GENERAL, SAUDIS SEEMED PLEASED WITH JORDANIAN RECEPTION FOR FAISAL AND FAISAL PRESENTED HUSSEIN WITH KING ABDUL AZIZ CHAIN, HIGHEST SAUDI DECORATION. JORDANIANS TEMPORARILY ABANDONED THEIR WESTERNIZED SELF-IMAGE AND STRESSED BEDOUIN THEME, WITH KING HUSSEIN APPEARING IN ARMY UNIFORM AND KAFFIYEH FOR FAISAL'S ARRIVAL AND UNCHARACTERISTIC ARAB HEADADDRESS AND GOWN ON DEPARTURE, WHILE JORDANIANS SLAUGHTERED 8 - 12 CAMELS AS TRIBUTE ALONG FAISAL MOTORCADE ROUTE -- PROBABLY FIRST CAMELS SEEN ON JABAL AMMAN IN YEARS OUTSIDE OF ARMY PARADES. IN SUM, PRELIMINARY REACTION IS THAT VISIT WAS SUCCESS

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FUL, WHICH GIVEN PAST CHEQUERED NATURE OF JORDANIAN-SAUDI RELATIONS, IS AN ACHIEVEMENT.
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